

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANT: Alexander James Bridges, et al. EXAMINER: Mojdeh Bahar

SERIAL NO. : 10/049,762 ART UNIT : 1617

FILED : June 20, 2002 PAPER NO. : 8

FOR : Method for Treating Chronic Pain Using MEK Inhibitors

Response to Restriction Requirement Under 35 U.S.C. 121 and 372

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

This is in response to the Office Action dated October 3, 2003 (Paper Number 7) in which Restriction was required under 35 U.S.C. 121 and 372.

Under PCT Rule 13.1 and in accordance with 37 CFR 1.499, Applicants were required to elect a single invention of the following inventions:

Group I, claim(s) 1-26 and 122, drawn to a method of treating pain employing a compound of formula I.

Group II, claim(s) 27-35, 37-58 and 123, drawn to a method of treating pain employing a compound of formula II A.

Group III, claim 36, drawn to a method of treating pain employing a compound of formula IA.

Group IV, claim(s) 59-94 and 124, drawn to a method of treating pain employing a compound of formula IB.

Group V, claim(s) 95-121 and 125, drawn to a method of treating pain employing a compound of formula IC.

The Applicants hereby elect Group IV for prosecution on the merits, without traverse.

The Applicants have also been required to elect a single species to which the claim shall be restricted if no generic claim is finally held to be allowable. The Applicants hereby elect the species 2-(2-chloro-4-ethynyl-phenylamino)-N-cyclopropylmethoxy-3,4-difluoro-benzamide. Claims 59-67, 71, 72, 74, 79, 81, 82, 83, and 94 are readable on the elected species.

Finally, the Applicants respectfully reserve the right to file a Divisional application(s) to the non-elected claims.

The Applicants submit that this application is now in condition for allowance, which allowance is respectfully solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: December 3, 2003

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PTO/SB/21 (6-98)
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Patent and Trademark Office: U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

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(Application Number	10/049,762						
TRANSMITTAL	Filing Date	June 20, 2002						
FORM	First Named Inventor	Alexander James Bridges, et al.						
(to be used for all correspondence after initial filing)	Group Art Unit	1617						
	Examiner Name	Mojdeh Bahar						
Total Number of Pages in This Submission 4	Attorney Docket Number	A0000100-01-SMH						
ENCLOSURES (check all that apply)								
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Firm or Individual name Suzanne M. Harvey	bruey_							
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Effective 01/01/2003. Patent fees are subject to annual revision.		Examiner Name		me	Mojdeh Bahar IFCH	
Applicant claims small entity status. See 37 CFR 1.27		Art Unit			1617	ENTER
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Name (Print/Type) Suzanne M. Harvey		(Attorney		42,640	Telephone 734-622-2495	

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This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.17 and 1.27. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 12 minutes to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, Washington, DC 20231. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231.